

OPERA CAROLINA

presents

Great American Voices Military Base Tour

Fort Jackson

Columbia, South Carolina

February 24, 2006

8:00 pm

Program Order

Sonia Rodríguez Bermejo, *soprano*

Donald Groves, *tenor*

Jeffrey Monette, *baritone*

N. Taylor Baldwin, *piano*

SET #1: AMERICAN OPERA & SONG

“Ain’t It a Pretty Night!” (Floyd, *Susannah*) – Ms. Rodríguez Bermejo

“Lonely House” (Weill, *Street Scene*) – Mr. Groves

“Do You Know the Land” (Adamo, *Little Women*) – Mr. Monette

“Flight” (Cabaret song by Craig Carnelia) – Mr. Groves

“Bucking Bronco” (Larsen, *Cowboys Songs*) – Ms. Rodríguez Bermejo

SET #2: POPULAR OPERA

“Quando m’en vo” (Puccini, *La bohème*) – Ms. Rodríguez Bermejo

*Whenever I want, I can stroll alone down any street,
and everyone will stop and stare.
All take in my beauty from head to toe!
I savor subtle jealousy in their eyes;
And every man's obvious ensnarement by my fascinating beauty.
Sn outburst of desire encircles me; And I am happy with my conquest.*

“Una furtiva lagrima” (Donizetti, *L’elisir d’amore*) – Mr. Groves

*Who can deceive a loving heart? Love is not blind, but wise.
I saw two tears appear like twin stars in your eyes.
What greater joy can I know?
Darling, you love me – you wept for me.*

*Soon I will hold you close to me, and know you are mine.
If I could hear your heart reply in answer to my own;*

Then I would gladly die.

“Bella siccome un angelo” (Donizetti, ***Don Pasquale***) – Mr. Monette

*She is fair an angel in her heavenly splendor,
Sweet as roses, pure as a lily,
Lips that are soft and tender;
Arms that invite surrender;
Hair like ebony, and magic in her eyes.*

*What enchanting innocence!
A maiden of such modesty is worth a life's devotion.
Kind to the poor, devout, but not too holy.
What a happy man he'll be, who wins so rare a prize.*

“Regnava nel silenzio” (Donizetti, ***Lucia di Lammermoor***) – Ms. Rodríguez Bermejo

*All slumbered in the silence of the night,
No star was gleaming, and the palid moon was veiled.
On the breeze was borne a sorrow; and then I saw her.
She moved her lips, but did not speak;
As if warning, she waved her hand.
I dared not follow, and then she vanished.
But when he is with me all my fears are gone.
Love will bring me a happy tomorrow.*

“Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön” (Mozart, ***Die Zauberflöte***) – Mr. Groves

*O enchanted image, who has seen such a visage;
I feel this divine image surround my heart with love.
O that I could make her see her; tell her of my love,
Then I would say with loving heart,
I will be hers forevermore.*

“La ci darem la mano” (Mozart, ***Don Giovanni***) – Ms. Rodríguez Bermejo & Mr. Monette

*He: Give me your hand, Say you will;
See, it is not far, Let's go inside together.
She: I want to, but can't – my heart is trembling;
Will you be true to me, Or are you toying with me?
Both: Together we will go, my love;
And know the pain of an innocent love.*

SET #3: AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE

“Oh! What a Beautiful Morning” (Rodgers, ***Oklahoma!***) – Mr. Monette

“Johanna” (Sondheim, ***Sweeney Todd***) – Mr. Groves

“Green Finch and Linnet Bird” (Sondheim, ***Sweeney Todd***) – Ms. Rodríguez Bermejo

“The Impossible Dream” (Lardon/Leigh, ***Man of La Mancha***) – Mr. Monette

“That Will Show Him!” (Sondheim, ***FORUM***) – Ms. Rodríguez Bermejo

“Lily's Eyes” (Simon, ***The Secret Garden***) – Mr. Monette & Mr. Groves

The Artists

Taylor Baldwin, accompanist

Mr. Baldwin holds the Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from Radford University. Additionally, he has studied at Lenoir-Rhyne College and University of Tennessee. Taylor has held positions with the Roanoke Symphony Chorus, University of Tennessee Opera Studio and Knoxville Opera.

Sonia Rodriguez Bermejo, soprano

Ms. Rodriguez Bermejo earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Ithaca College and a Master of Music degree from Eastman School of Music. She has participated in the young artist programs at Sarasota Opera and Chautauqua Opera. In January of this year, Sonia won the regional Metropolitan Opera Young Artist Competition in Charlotte, North Carolina and will compete at the next level of competition in Atlanta.

Donald Grove, tenor

Donald Groves earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Colorado. Mr. Groves has performed with the University of Colorado opera program, the Dona Ana Lyric Opera, and the Lyric Opera of Cleveland. Don also participated in the young artist program at Chautauqua Opera.

Jeff Monette, baritone

Jeff Monette earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Texas Tech University and the Master's Degree in Voice and a Performer's Diploma in Voice from Indiana University. He has been an apprentice artist and resident artist at various opera companies including Kentucky Opera, Des Moines Opera, and Cincinnati Opera. Mr. Monette also has performed on the mainstage with Kentucky Opera, Opera Illinois, and Utah Festival Opera.